



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Authority

FROM: Larry Hanover, Senior Public Information Manager

DATE: May 25, 2010

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA)  
May Progress Report

### **ROD Grants Announcement:**

SDA CEO Marc Larkins and state Education Commissioner Bret Schundler announced May 24 that Regular Operating District (ROD) grant funding is ready to be released for 142 facilities projects at 111 schools in 59 school districts throughout the State.

Funding for the program was made available from the sale of \$500 million in bonds by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA).

Larkins said, "This is an important moment for the SDA and school districts throughout New Jersey. These grants signal another major step forward for the program, leveraging millions of dollars of construction in 18 of New Jersey's 21 counties. They will allow districts to perform necessary improvements to the learning environments for our children and create much-needed jobs during this difficult economic period."

Schundler commented, "I am proud to join Marc Larkins and our colleagues at the Schools Development Authority in launching a renewed round of funding for school construction projects. State grants will help assure that our students will have safe learning environments. Many children will benefit from this necessary investment in schools across New Jersey."

The joint announcement on May 24 by Larkins and Schundler came at West Windsor-Plainsboro High School-South in West Windsor. Announcements were also made on May 25 in Summit (Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School) and Montville Township (Montville High School) to discuss ROD grant funding in those respective districts. The grants represent at least 40 percent of eligible costs for the ROD projects, addressing health-and-safety issues, student overcrowding and other critical needs.

The announced grants represent a \$36.9 million State investment, leveraging \$77.5 million in total capital investment.

The Department of Education determines the selection of school projects receiving grant funds from the SDA. The Authority currently has a portfolio of 1,004 ongoing grant projects in the RODs, 50 projects in SDA districts in various developmental phases, 12 projects already under construction and 134 emergent projects addressing health-and safety issues statewide.

Since its inception in 2001, New Jersey's school construction program has provided over 3,000 grants to RODs, totaling more than \$2.3 billion. Including contributions from local school districts, these grants have leveraged projects estimated at \$7.4 billion overall. The program also has completed 621 school projects in SDA Districts during that span.

Following are details on the districts where announcements were held:

- West Windsor-Plainsboro High School-South will receive upgrades to corridor and vestibule ceilings and lighting. The State is providing a grant of \$190,224, representing its share of the overall estimated cost of \$475,560.
- The Summit district will receive funding for projects in a middle school and five elementary schools for work estimated at \$3.1 million.
  - It will receive a \$959,000 grant toward a \$2.4 million project for window replacement at Lawton C. Johnson Summit Middle School, built in 1922.
  - It will also receive \$288,000 in grants for partial window and door replacements at Washington, Lincoln-Hubbard, Franklin and Brayton schools and for partial window replacement at Jefferson School.
- The Montville district will receive funding for projects in four schools, allowing it to proceed with work estimated at \$1.15 million. The grants to Montville are the first since the SDA's ROD grants program resumed in 2009.
  - It will receive an \$184,000 grant for window replacement at Montville Township High School. Overall, the project is estimated at \$460,000.
  - It will also receive \$279,000 in grants for window replacements at Hilldale and Cedar Hill elementary schools, and for a partial roof replacement at Robert R. Lazar Middle School.

**Events:**

- **May 6:** Larkins attended the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee meeting along with officials of the New Jersey Department of the Treasury.
- **May 12:** Larkins appeared before the Joint Committee on Public Schools to discuss the status of the school construction program.
- **May 18:** Representatives of SDA, DOE and other state entities attended a meeting of the PTA to discuss the status of the Jersey City P.S. #20 construction project.

**Upcoming Events:**

- **June 2: SDA Board Meeting**
- **June 22: Remarks to Alliance for Action:** Larkins will attend the Alliance's Meet the Players Meeting to discuss the status of the SDA program. The event will be at the Hilton Garden Inn in Edison, Middlesex County.

**Contractor Procurement:**

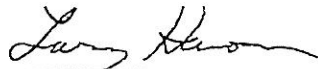
A construction re-bid was advertised May 18, 2010 for an emergent boiler project at Paterson's Public School #10. Bids are due June 15. (Exhibit A)

**Construction Update:**

Since inception, the school construction program has completed 621 projects in SDA Districts. In addition to 54 new schools, it has provided funding for 45 extensive additions, renovations and/or rehabilitations; six demonstration projects and more than 500 other projects. Also, it has completed 24 projects in Regular Operating Districts: six new schools and 18 extensive additions, renovations and/or rehabilitations.

**Construction Contracts:**

As of May 25, 2010, the Authority has entered into construction contracts totaling \$3,733,328,564 since the 2001 inception of the school construction program.



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Larry Hanover

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Exhibit A